

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicants respectfully elect to prosecute the claims of Group I (claims 1-4) without traverse.

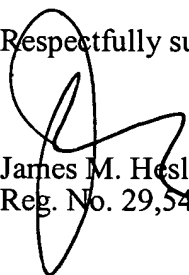
Applicants have also amended the claims to correct an error in claim 1 (it is the sealing catheter, not the isolation/access catheter, which delivers the closure element) and add several dependent claims.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,


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